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NSC BRIEFING

12 February 1958

Korean Situation

- I. Communist China and North Korea have ^{again} embarked on a major campaign to win support for inducing withdrawal of foreign troops from Korea and unifying country through "neutral" nations (not UN) supervision.
- A. These long-standing proposals were announced by Peiping's foreign ministry on 7 Feb. ChiComs said they willing to "break deadlock" by negotiating with North Koreans for the withdrawal of ChiCom troops (currently about 315,000).
- B. On same day, ChiComs sent texts of announcement to member govts of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (Switzerland, Sweden, Poland, Czechoslovakia) and the UK, which was asked to transmit them to nations participating in the UN command.
- C. On 10 Feb. Chou En-lai further declared Peiping will "take initiative" in promoting withdrawals from north and south.
- II. Communists apparently making moves with high sense of urgency.
- A. Chou En-lai will go to Pyongyang later this month for talks with North Koreans.

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1. Chou and the North Koreans will probably announce agreement on Chinese withdrawal contingent on departure of UN forces.
2. Chou could also announce token withdrawals of Chinese forces to support Peiping's gesture of "initiative" and willingness to "break deadlock."
3. Doubtful that Chou will announce unilateral withdrawal of all Peiping's troops (despite precedent of Soviet withdrawal in 1949) because current Communist propaganda

is calling for simultaneous withdrawals

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III. Appeals for withdrawals support Communist pose as peace champions.

- A. Timed to contrast with US introduction of newer weapons into South Korea.**
- B. May also be intended to take steam out of argument against ChiCom membership in UN based on ChiCom aggressive posture in Korea.**
- C. Serve to highlight fact that USSR not insisting on inclusion of Far Eastern issues (including ChiCom participation) in Summit agenda.**
 - 1. Contrasts with US insistence on discussing German unification and EE Satellites.**

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